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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/619,257

07/14/2003

Kenichiro Yasui

16829

7047

23389 7590 06/07/2007
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EXAMINER

SELBY, GEVELL V

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2622

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

06/07/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/619,257

Applicant(s)

YASUI, KENICHIRO

Examiner

Gevell Selby

Art Unit

2622

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 16 March 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- 1) ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - 2) ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - 3) ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments filed 3/16/07 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. The applicant submits the prior art does not disclose the following limitations of the claimed invention:

first and second camera units mounted on the same face of this flexible substrate, as stated in claims 1 and 5; and

first and second camera units mounted on different faces of this flexible substrate, as stated in claims 2 and 6. The Examiner respectfully disagrees.

Examiner's Reply:

Re claims 1 and 5) The Stekelenburg reference discloses a first (figure 1b, element AC) and a second (see figure 1b, element PTC) camera units mounted on ends of a flexible substrate (see figure 1b, element FC) but does not disclose that these cameras are mounted on the same face of the flexible substrate. Thus, the reference discloses all the claimed limitations of the claimed invention and the dependent claims are not allowable based on their dependency.

Re claims 2 and 6) The Stekelenburg reference discloses a first (figure 1b, element AC) and a second (see figure 1b, element PTC) camera units mounted on ends of a flexible substrate (see figure 1b, element FC) wherein the ends of the flexible substrate read on different faces or sides of the flexible substrate, since the figure shows the flexible substrate (FC) is cord shaped with opposite ends and not completely round with one surface. Mizobuchi, US 6,160,967, teaches forming components of a camera on the same surface of a flexible printed circuit board, wherein

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the circuit board is bent about a predetermined bending line at 180 degrees so that the components are opposite each other (see figure 3B and abstract). One of ordinary skill in the art could easily configure the mounting of the cameras in the Stekelenburg reference to be configured with the mounting means of the Mizobuchi reference. Thus, the combination discloses all the claimed limitations of the claimed invention and the dependent claims are not allowable based on their dependency.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. **Claims 2, 4, 6, 8, and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Stekelenburg, US 6,727,939.**

In regard to claims 2 and 6, Stekelenburg, US 6,727,939, discloses a camera module and a mobile communication terminal having a built-in camera module comprising one flexible substrate (see figure 1b, element FC), and first (see figure 1b, element AC) and second (see figure 1b, element PTC) camera units mounted on different faces of this flexible substrate so that the directions of their fields of view be reverse to each other (see column 2, lines 7-20).

In regard to claims 4 and 8, Stekelenburg, US 6,727,939, discloses the camera module, as claimed in claims 2 and 6, respectively, wherein: bent parts are so set in prescribed positions of said flexible substrate that the lens face of said first camera unit and the rear face of said second camera unit be on substantially the same plane, and the rear face of said first camera unit and the lens face of said second camera unit be on substantially the same plane (see column 2, lines 7-20: the flexible substrate FC is bent in prescribed positions by the camera operator CM in order to make the first camera FC face the desired direction such as the opposite direction as the second camera and the flexible substrate is bent 180 degrees).

In regard to claim 10, Stekelenburg, US 6,727,939, discloses the mobile communication terminal, as claimed in claim 6, respectively, wherein it is inherent the first camera unit is intended for short-range shots and the second camera unit is intended for long-range shots, because the second camera is a television camera with full features for gathering news, different sports events, and other things wherein the first camera is an auxiliary camera with only the features needed to capture the camera operators surroundings.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Stekelenburg, US 6,727,939, in view of Mizobuchi, US 6,160,967.

In regard to claims 1 and 5, Stekelenburg, US 6,727,939, discloses a camera module and a mobile communication terminal having a built-in camera module comprising one flexible substrate (see figure 1b, element FC), first (see figure 1b, element AC) and second (see figure 1b, element PTC) camera units mounted on the flexible substrate (see column 2, lines 7-15), and bent parts so set in prescribed positions of said flexible substrate that the directions of the fields of view of said first and second camera units be reverse to each other (see column 2, lines 7-20: the flexible substrate FC is bent in prescribed positions by the camera operator CM in order to make the first camera FC face the desired direction such as the opposite direction as the second camera).

The Stekelenburg reference does not disclose the cameras are mounted on the same surface of the flexible substrate.

Mizobuchi, US 6,160,967, discloses forming components of a camera on the same surface of a flexible printed circuit board, wherein the circuit board is bent about a predetermined bending line at 180 degrees so that the components are opposite each other (see figure 3B and abstract).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to have been motivated to modify Stekelenburg, US 6,727,939, in view of Mizobuchi, US 6,160,967, to have the camera mounted on the same surface of the flexible substrate, in order to have

the cameras facing in opposite directions when the flexible straight in bent 180 degrees to save space.

In regard to claims 3 and 7, Stekelenburg, US 6,727,939, in view of Mizobuchi, US 6,160,967, discloses the camera module, as claimed in claims 1 and 5, respectively. The Mizobuchi reference discloses wherein: bent parts are so set in prescribed positions of said flexible substrate that the lens face of said first camera unit and the rear face of said second camera unit be on substantially the same plane, and the rear face of said first camera unit and the lens face of said second camera unit be on substantially the same plane (see figure 3B).

In regard to claim 9, Stekelenburg, US 6,727,939, in view of Mizobuchi, US 6,160,967, discloses the mobile communication terminal, as claimed in claims 5 and 6, respectively, wherein it is inherent the first camera unit is intended for short-range shots and the second camera unit is intended for long-range shots, because the second camera is a television camera with full features for gathering news, different sports events, and other things wherein the first camera is an auxiliary camera with only the features needed to capture the camera operators surroundings.

In regard to claims 11 and 12, Stekelenburg, US 6,727,939, in view of Mizobuchi, US 6,160,967, discloses the mobile communication terminal, as claimed in claim 7, wherein it implied the first camera unit is intended for short-range shots and the second camera unit is intended for long-range shots, because the second camera is a television camera with full features for gathering news, different sports events, and other things

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wherein the first camera is an auxiliary camera with only the features needed to capture the camera operators surroundings.

6. Claims 13-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Stekelenburg, US 6,727,939, in view of Mizobuchi, US 6,160,967, as applied to claim 9 above, and further in view of Lee at el., US 2004/0212709.

In regard to claims 13-16, Stekelenburg, US 6,727,939, in view of Mizobuchi, US 6,160,967, discloses the mobile communication terminal, as claimed in claims 9-12, respectively. The Stekelenburg and Mizobuchi references do not disclose wherein: the lens face of said first camera unit is exposed on a front case constituting the body of the mobile communication terminal, and the lens face of said second camera unit is exposed on a rear cover constituting said body.

Lee at el., US 2004/0212709, discloses a camera with a first camera unit (23) and a second camera unit (25), wherein the lens face of said first camera unit is exposed on a front case constituting the body (20) of the camera, and the lens face of said second camera unit is exposed on a rear cover constituting said body (see para. 35-38).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to have been motivated to modify Stekelenburg, US 6,727,939, in view of Mizobuchi, US 6,160,967, and further in view of Lee at el., US 2004/0212709, to have the lens face of said first camera unit is exposed on a front case constituting the body of the mobile communication terminal, and the lens face of said second camera unit is exposed on a rear cover constituting said body, in order to save space making the camera more compact.

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Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Gevell Selby whose telephone number is 571-272-7369. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 A.M. - 5:30 PM (every other Friday off).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Vivek Srivastava can be reached on 571-272-7304. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

gvs



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